



SUMMER
2011

SUGAR LAND TODAY

PUBLISHED BY THE CITY OF SUGAR LAND

CITY COUNCIL/ CHARTER ELECTION RESULTS

Sugar Land held a City Council and Charter Amendment election on May 14, followed by a runoff election for Districts 3 and 4. For complete election results, see page 3.

NEW RECREATION CENTER OPENS



Since opening June 6, residents can tour the City's new Imperial Park Recreation Center equipped with a full size gymnasium, workout facilities and more. A grand opening celebration is set for July 30. For details, see page 13.

IN THIS ISSUE

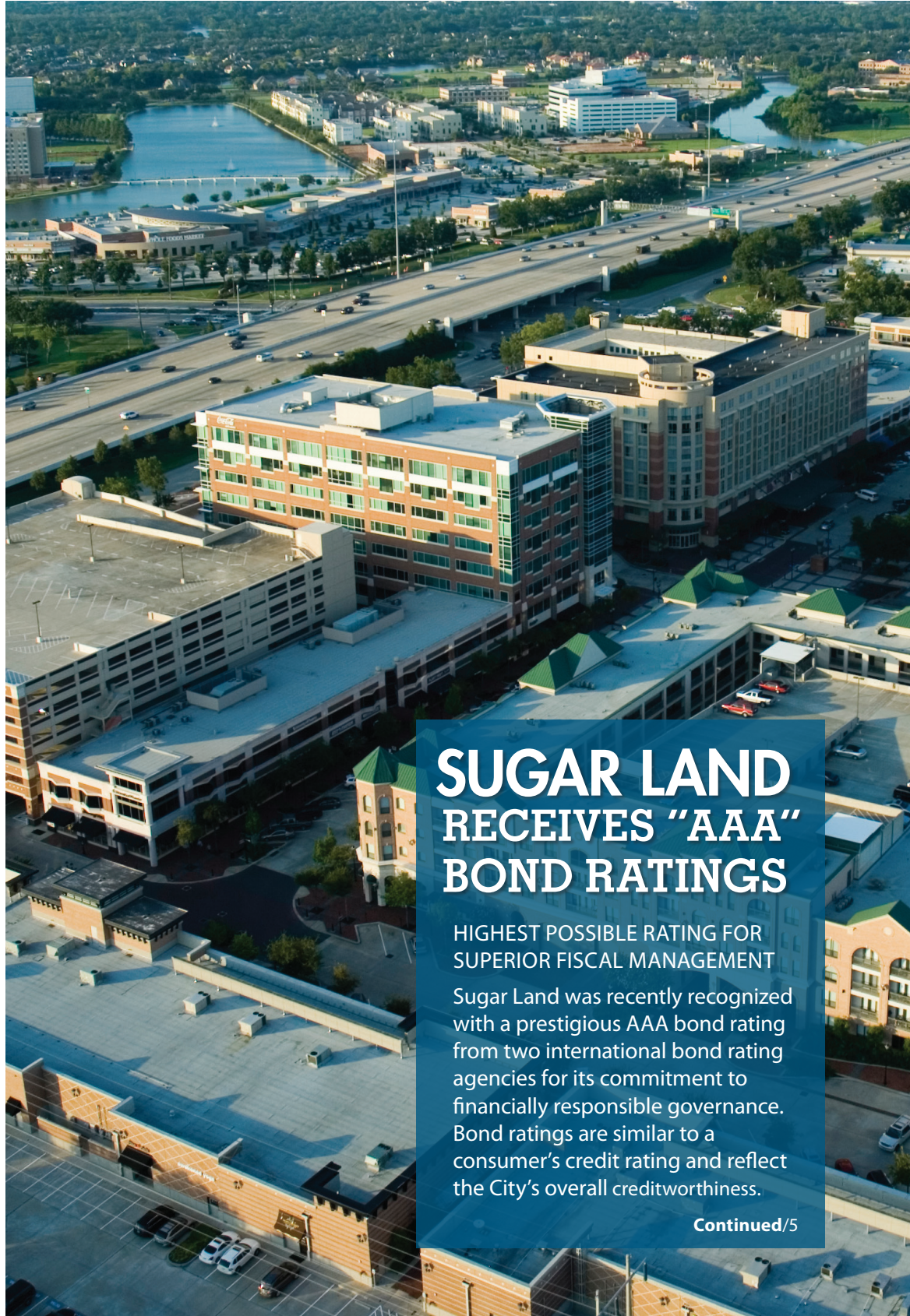
Baseball Stadium
Groundbreaking 6

Mobility Plan Adopted 9

Enhanced Solid Waste
and Recycling Program 10
July 20 Deadline

Red, White and Bluefest 13
July 4

Special Insert:
2010 City Water Quality
Report



SUGAR LAND RECEIVES "AAA" BOND RATINGS

HIGHEST POSSIBLE RATING FOR
SUPERIOR FISCAL MANAGEMENT

Sugar Land was recently recognized with a prestigious AAA bond rating from two international bond rating agencies for its commitment to financially responsible governance. Bond ratings are similar to a consumer's credit rating and reflect the City's overall creditworthiness.

Continued/5



Though the recent runoff election results are not yet official, we are excitedly preparing to work with the new City Council members to continue the City's mission of enhancing the quality of life in our community and delivering excellent public services.

Though the term limit provision in the City Charter guarantees regular turnover on the City Council, the form of government established by the Charter ensures continuity in the midst of change. Within the Council-Manager form of government and through an established strategic planning process, the City Council is able to ensure its long-term vision for the community will be continuously carried out by professional staff.

As a result, despite numerous changes on the City Council over the past decades, the City has continued to make significant and tangible progress on achieving the goals outlined in the Council-established long-term vision. The vision for financially responsible government is evident in the City's recently earned "AAA" bond rating. The expectation that Sugar Land be a safe city is reflected in our continued recognition as one of the safest cities – not only in Texas, but in the entire United States. Nor does the list stop there, as the desire for enhanced cultural arts and entertainment options will be further realized on Opening Day 2012 when the Sugar Land Skeeters begin their baseball season next spring in StarTex Power Field.

The same strategic planning process that builds continuity also ensures that newly elected City Council members are able to introduce their ideas and influence the vision, mission and goals of the City. This fall the City Council will review the City's goals and objectives in detail to ensure all new ideas are captured as we review plans for 2012 and begin planning for 2013.

In the meantime, we also recognize there are immediate, short-term actions and decisions to be made – including consideration of the Fiscal Year 2012 budget, which will take place in September after several workshops in August. As part of our responsibility as staff to ensure the entire City Council has the needed information to act on the City's budget, each department will be working extremely hard throughout the month of July to provide the new Council members with presentations on their mission, structure, programs and key issues.

Without a doubt, transition requires the hard work of elected officials, staff and the many citizens who serve on the City's Boards and Commissions. It is also extremely rewarding, however, to have the opportunity to work with new leaders in service to our community – whether they are elected, appointed or hired. We will work tirelessly to ensure your vision for Sugar Land in 2025 becomes a reality and I look forward to celebrating the successes we will achieve together.



City Goals

- Safest City in America
- Responsible City Government
- Strong Local Economy
- Livable Neighborhoods
- Mobility for People
- Well Planned Community

City Council

James A. Thompson

Mayor

Thomas Abraham

Mayor Pro Tem

At-Large Position One

**Jacqueline Baly
Chaumette**

At-Large Position Two

Donald L. Smithers

Single Member District One

Bridget Yeung

Single Member District Two

Russell C. Jones

Single Member District Three

* as of press time until recount is complete.

Harish C. Jajoo

Single Member District Four

City Management

Allen Bogard

City Manager

Karen Glynn

Assistant City Manager

Karen Daly

Assistant City Manager

Steve Griffith

Assistant City Manager

Contributors

Douglas Brinkley, Jennifer Brown, Joe Chessier, Kaila D'Addeo, Anne Gaines, Glenda Gundermann, Leon Kaplan, Jennifer May, Michael McLemore, Chris Mobley, Kelly Penewitt, Teresa Preza, Shannon Price, Eric Robins, Dale Rudick, Keisha Seals, Mara Soloway, Colleen Spencer, Dawn Steph, Pat Walsh, David Worley

Communications Director: Pat Pollicoff

Editor: Rosanne R. Moore

Design: Catalyst Studio Inc.

Comments

By e-mail:

pubinfo@sugarlandtx.gov

By phone:

281-275-2296

Sugar Land Today is published quarterly by the City of Sugar Land.

CITIZENS SOUGHT FOR CITY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Application Deadline: August 1

Are you dedicated to making Sugar Land a livable, prosperous and exceptional community? Then consider serving on a City Board or Commission! **The application deadline is August 1.**

Citizen-appointed boards and commissions provide City Council with input and recommended direction on a variety of topics vital to the City's future. Terms of office begin October 1 and end September 30, 2012, and last one or two years depending on the type of board.

Applications are available at www.sugarlandtx.gov under "City Government/Boards and Commissions" or you can call the City Secretary's office at 281-275-2730.

Forms can be faxed at 281-275-2316, emailed to ggundermann@sugarlandtx.gov or delivered to City Hall, 2700 Town Center Boulevard North

CITY COUNCIL CHARTER ELECTION RESULTS

On May 14, Sugar Land voters cast their ballots on four City Council district positions and nine proposed City Charter amendments. Council members elected in Districts 1 and 2 were sworn into office May 24. A runoff election was held June 11 for Districts 3 and 4.

Voters approved 7 of the 9 proposed amendments to the City Charter.

The results of the election have been codified and are available under the City Secretary/City Charter link.

For Runoff results, go to www.sugarlandtx.gov and click on the "2011 Election" icon.

The City *and* the Texas Legislature



The 82nd Texas Legislature approved Sugar Land's proactive legislative agenda thanks to the planning efforts of our City Council members and State elected leaders.

Legislation was passed to dissolve the nearly 80-year-old WCID #1, which will allow the City to retain all the assets and more importantly, maintain the water rights formerly owned by the District.

The City worked to secure voting representation for Fort Bend and Brazoria counties by adding two members to the Gulf Coast Water Authority Board of Directors. Pending the Governor's signature, the Fort Bend and Brazoria County Commissioners Court will appoint one member each to the Board. Forty percent of the GCWA's contracted water volume serves these two counties.

State lawmakers paved the way for the historic closure of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's Central Prison Unit in Sugar Land, the first time the State has ever closed and sold the land of a working prison unit. This item is part of the State Appropriation Bill (HBI) still pending the Governor's signature. The prison relocation – which has been a City Council priority since 2006 – will allow the prison site to be re-developed into a new business park and additional airport-related facilities.

CITY COUNCIL AND RUNOFF ELECTION RESULTS



DISTRICT 1 – Don Smithers begins his second term as councilman for Single Member District One. Previously, he served on Sugar Land City Council from 1997 to 2003. Smithers is involved in numerous community activities, including vice chair of the Fort Bend Chamber Government

Relations Committee and is a director for the Sugar Land Cultural Arts Foundation.



DISTRICT 2 – Bridget Yeung ran unopposed for Single Member District Two and succeeds Don Olson, who did not seek re-election. Yeung serves on the Sugar Land Cultural Arts and Sugar Land Heritage Foundations and is immediate past chair of

the Sugar Land Planning & Zoning Commission and Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce.

RUNOFF RESULTS



DISTRICT 3 – A recount petition has been received in the District Three race between Amy Mitchell and Howard Paul following the June 11 runoff election.

Unofficial results show Mitchell leading by one vote, 791 to Paul's 790. Mitchell, a local business owner and attorney, received 464 votes during early voting and 327 on Election Day. Paul, an engineering consultant, earned 453 votes during early voting and 337 on Election Day. At press time, the official

results were not finalized because of a later deadline for receipt of overseas mail ballots. Final election results for District 3 will be announced once the official results of the recount have been received.



DISTRICT 4 – Unofficial election results show Harish Jajoo won 52.38 percent of the votes to Farha Ahmed's 47.62 percent in the June 11 runoff election. A registered civil engineer and certified floodplain manager, Jajoo served on the Sugar Land Planning and Zoning Commission and serves as chair for the Infrastructure Planning Division of the Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce. Official election results will be canvassed and approved by City Council.

CITY GRADUATES EIGHTH LEADERSHIP CLASS

City Council recently recognized 28 graduates of Sugar Land 101 – a 10-week course focusing on City operations and preparing participants for leadership roles in the community.

By the end of the course, citizens have a better understanding of the structure and functions of Sugar Land's governance.

The 2011 graduating class marked the program's eighth year. Many Sugar Land 101 graduates go on to serve on a City board or commission or become more involved in their local homeowners associations.

The curriculum includes presentations by City staff; a mock City Council meeting with Mayor James Thompson; and field trips to several sites, such as the water treatment plant, police and fire stations, the Sugar Land Regional Airport and the traffic center.



Applications for the next SL 101 class will be available in August. Space is limited. For more information or to register, visit www.sugarlandtx.gov and select "City Services," then "Sugar Land 101."



In recognition of National Volunteer Week, the City hosted a "thank you" ceremony on April 10 to recognize volunteers for their outstanding community service. More than 175 volunteers, family and friends celebrated with a picnic dinner and concert at Oyster Creek Park.

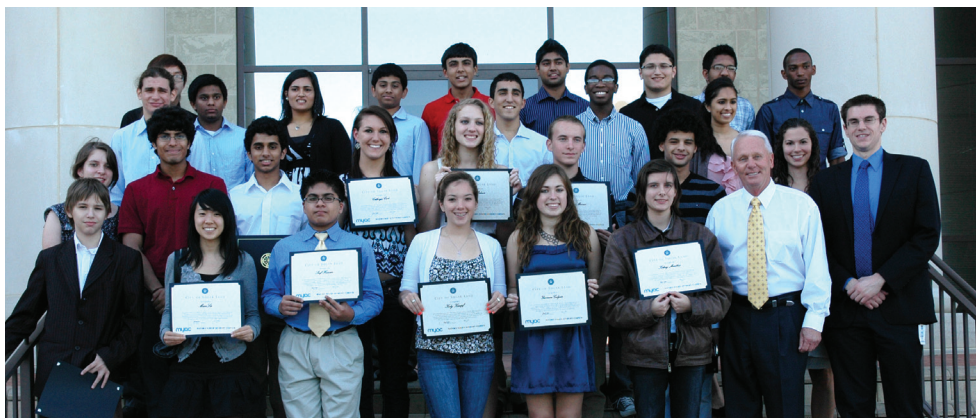
Since 2007, the City's award winning Serve Sugar Land volunteer program has provided citizens with opportunities to become involved in their city government. In 2010, more than 675 volunteers contributed more than 24,071 hours of service to the City equaling more than \$501,800 of in-kind service donations.

Each City department was asked to nominate a distinguished individual volunteer, each of whom was recognized in a ceremony during the concert intermission. Special recognition went to ten individuals: Sheila Beissel, Brenda Frye, Jane Goodsill, Carol Hill, Joyce Jackson, Robert May, Bob Milke, Charles Stansell, Jill Whelan and Ed White. Carol Hill was selected as the 2010 Volunteer of the Year for her efforts to promote animal adoption at the City shelter.

With the help of volunteers, the City has been able to further expand and enrich the services it provides to the community.

For more information on the Serve Sugar Land volunteer program and how to volunteer, visit www.sugarlandtx.gov/programs/serve_sugarland.

MYAC's Sixth Graduating Class Recognized



The Mayor's Youth Advisory Council Class of 2010-2011 wrapped up its session with a reception with Mayor James Thompson, a City Council recognition and the completion of their service project: participating in Sugar Land's "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rock!" event on April 16. MYAC has helped empower youth to become active members in their community.

SUGAR LAND RECEIVES "AAA" BOND RATINGS

continued from cover



Standard & Poor's (S&P) raised its long-term rating and underlying rating on Sugar Land's existing general obligation debt to "AAA" from "AA." At the same time, S&P assigned its "AAA" long-term rating to the City's Series 2011 Combination Tax and Revenue Certificates of Obligation. Fitch Ratings confirmed the "AAA" rating assigned to the City.

"Triple A ratings are not easily achieved, and they place us among the ranks of just a few Texas cities to earn this elite status," said City Manager Allen Bogard. "The bond rating agencies specifically recognized our commitment to strong fiscal stewardship despite difficult economic times. This is a value that reflects our

corporate culture, but it also reflects the goals that City Council has established."

In Texas, Fitch Ratings has assigned the "AAA" to eight cities, and S&P has awarded the "AAA" to 19 cities. Eight Texas cities carry the "AAA" from both agencies, including Austin, Carrollton, Colleyville, Lewisville, Plano, San Antonio, Southlake and Sugar Land.

Sugar Land's bond ratings were evaluated at the City's request in conjunction with the issuance of \$98.55 million in Certificates of Obligation scheduled for sale in April. The certificates will fund construction of the City's Surface Water Treatment Plant, transmission lines and water plant upgrades to facilitate the City's

conversion to surface water mandated by 2013.

The high bond ratings mean the city and taxpayers will benefit from the lowest available interest rates and will pay less in interest and insurance costs when issuing debt for major capital improvement projects.

"As a result of hard work by City Council and staff, we should be very proud of how we've managed the City during this difficult economic time and we will continue these efforts into the future," said City Manager Allen Bogard.

GLOBAL SELECT RATED #2

Global Select at Sugar Land Regional Airport was once again ranked one of the best Fixed Based Operators (FBO) in the Western Hemisphere by *Aviation International News*.

The publication's 2011 FBO Survey compared more than 1,600 fixed based operators in the western hemisphere this year. The survey is completed by pilots and other corporate aviation experts who rate facilities in categories such as pilot amenities and services, line service, passenger amenities and facilities.

Global Select – the only City-owned operation recognized in the survey – was voted the second best this year and has been among the top 10 since 2007, with two first place selections during that time period.

TOP INTERNATIONAL TECH PROVIDER RELOCATES HEADQUARTERS TO SUGAR LAND

Atos Origin, Inc. will relocate its North American headquarters to Sugar Land. The leading international information/technology services provider will bring a minimum of 55 jobs to the City starting this August.

The City was able to attract ATOS Origin by creating an incentive package based on the company locating to Sugar Land and generating new sales tax revenues for the City.

As one of the top 10 international I/T service providers in the world, Atos Origin generates annual revenues of \$7.2 billion dollars and employs 49,000 people. From Sugar Land, the firm will oversee 800 employees in the United States and Canada.

Among its clientele of large multi-national groups and organizations is the International Olympic Committee, for which it is the Worldwide I/T Partner and in charge of the I/T for the Olympic Games.

Planned Concert Venue to Bring Capital Investment NEW JOBS, EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Sugar Land selected ACE Sugar Land, LLC to develop and operate the City's planned concert/performing arts facility and festival site.

City Council approved a Memorandum of Understanding with ACE SL to enter into exclusive discussions for a public-private partnership to bring a proposed 6,500-seat concert and performing arts facility to Sugar Land. A 38.5-acre site has been identified for the proposed venue near the intersection of U.S. Highway 59 and University Boulevard.

In 2007, a citizen-appointed Visioning Task Force identified five preferred entertainment venues to fulfill the vision of developing Sugar

Land as a destination location not only for residential, employment, retail and medical services, but also for entertainment. The task force's top three priorities included a professional minor league baseball park, an outdoor festival site and an indoor concert venue. Proposed venues and funding tools were overwhelmingly approved by Sugar Land voters in the November 2008 referendum.

A market analysis and feasibility study by the City in 2008 found a concert and performing arts venue would bring capital investment, new jobs, educational opportunities and create unique destination activities to attract local and regional visitors.



"We believe this will fill a much-needed gap in entertainment needs in this part of the greater Houston area and bring many more people here to enjoy the arts and all that our City offers."

– Mayor James Thompson

SUGAR LAND BREAKS GROUND ON STARTEX POWER FIELD



**Baseball Stadium
Groundbreaking
April 5, 2011**

The ceremonial installation of home plate at the future site of StarTex Power Field marked an historic milestone for professional minor league baseball in Sugar Land.

Joining Sugar Land City Council at the event were the Sugar Land Skeeters, Opening Day Partners (ODP), the Atlantic League of Professional Baseball, StarTex Power, Johnson Development and other special guests, including baseball greats Bob Watson, Gary Gaetti and Deacon Jones.

Sugar Land's \$27.9 million minor league baseball stadium is expected to be ready for opening day in April 2012. The stadium will be funded with a portion of sales tax revenues that may only be used for economic development purposes. No general fund tax dollars will be spent on the stadium.

In addition to the stadium serving as a community amenity, a conservative cost-benefit analysis performed by Conventions, Sports & Leisure International conservatively estimates

the project will generate economic activity annually of approximately \$7.7 million or a net return of \$169 million over 30 years on the investment by the City and ODP.

For more information on the ballpark's background and progress, go to www.sugarlandtx.gov and click on the "Ballpark Updates" icon.

CITY UNVEILS 5-YEAR ROADMAP FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS

The Economic Development Department has created a five-year roadmap that will help take Sugar Land's economy to higher levels of success.

A strong local economy with balanced development and redevelopment remain key goals in the City's vision and mission.

The "Economic Development Plan: Five-Year Strategic Roadmap 2011 – 2016" is the result of 12 months of effort by Economic Development staff and their consultant Chabin Concepts to research initiatives in tune with Sugar Land's capabilities and unique opportunities. It is based on the goal of a strong local economy.

This plan has been developed to enhance the opportunities for Sugar Land to strengthen its prominence in the Houston region while attracting investment, visitors and residents globally.

The final priorities of the plan center on:

- attraction of corporations with high quality jobs for residents;
- launch of pilot tourism and visitor program;
- continued development of destination projects;
- information and resource support for private-sector retail development efforts;
- support of a private sector-driven approach for redeveloping commercial areas in Sugar Land.

The strategic roadmap identifies three programs – primary industry, tourism and retail programs – with specific strategic initiatives to achieve the City's priorities.

View full Economic Development plan at www.sugarlandtx.gov.



TOURISM MARKETING PROGRAM STIMULATES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City of Sugar Land has initiated a tourism marketing pilot program to establish itself as a regionally, nationally and internationally recognized destination for conventions, meetings, events, trade shows and leisure travel. Sugar Land's hotels, attractions, restaurants and retailers will all benefit from the sales and marketing efforts.

Major components of the three-year program include developing a branding and marketing initiative; facilitating cooperative interaction between hoteliers, event facilities, retailers and other destination partners; and providing marketing and support for events.

Funding for the tourism marketing pilot program is generated by the City's hotel occupancy tax, the use of which is restricted to tourism/marketing programs and historic preservation. This program is focused on increasing visitors to Sugar Land, which will have the added economic benefit of increased sales tax revenues, stimulating economic growth and development of the community.

SLPD Explores Use of Citywide Camera Safety Program

The City Council authorized the Sugar Land Police Department to work with an independent consultant to consider a citywide Camera Safety Program to help provide an additional crime fighting tool with more security cameras placed along major thoroughfares, in city parks and facilities, commercial areas and neighborhoods.

A pilot project in partnership with retail districts and home owners associations north of U.S. Highway 90A would be the first step of the project.

The Camera Safety Program would be designed to encourage more businesses and homeowners associations (HOAs) to

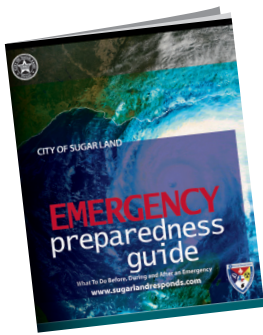
install security cameras that would be accessible to police and would build on previous camera installations at City parks. The intent of the program is to create a network of cameras that would provide video footage to help police deter criminal activity and investigate crimes more quickly.

The idea for the program is similar to SLPD's successful partnership with the First Colony Management District where police are provided remote access to security cameras from the police station and patrol cars.

"It is important for us to stay connected with the community and work together to

ensure Sugar Land remains a safe city for our residents," said Sugar Land Police Chief Doug Brinkley. "This collaborative, crime fighting tool will broaden the scope of our crime prevention efforts and enhance our exceptional public safety services we provide to our citizens."

In addition to security cameras, the police department has previously installed license plate recognition (LPR) cameras on patrol cars and at fixed locations to aid in criminal investigations. The LPR cameras read license plates that are cross-referenced to a database to track down leads, such as a stolen vehicle or a missing person.



Free copies of the City's new Emergency Preparedness Guide are available at City Hall and online at www.sugarlandresponds.com

PREPARE NOW *for* HURRICANE SEASON

There is no better time to prepare for an emergency or weather event than before it happens. The Atlantic hurricane season runs from June 1 through Nov. 30. Since Sugar Land is located just 50 miles from the Gulf of Mexico and is a pass-through community for coastal evacuees, any

storm that hits the Gulf coast could potentially affect our area. Residents can stay informed during a hurricane and other emergencies through several communication tools.

- The City of Sugar Land's emergency notification system is the fastest mode of communicating to residents via residential, business or cell phone; e-mail; text message; or devices for the hearing and speech impaired.

Register for emergency notifications at www.sugarlandtx.gov or www.sugarlandresponds.com.

- 2-1-1 is a state referral service for the disabled, elderly and special assistance individuals. Call 2-1-1 (or 877-541-7905 for the deaf) to register yourself or someone you know to be listed on the assistance/evacuation registry. **If you registered last year, you must register again this year to receive service.**
- Residents may also register for special needs assistance by contacting the county directly at www.enablefortbend.com.

- Important instructions for citizens, including information on preparedness, response and recovery efforts can be found at www.sugarlandresponds.com.

Whenever a tropical storm enters the Gulf of Mexico, it is important to be prepared whether or not the storm comes our way.

Double check your emergency plans and consider these tips:

- Monitor TV and radio broadcasts for instructions and storm information.
- Check your emergency supply kits for your family, relatives with special needs and pets. Plan to have enough food and water to last three to seven days without electricity. Replenish your emergency supplies after every storm.
- Make sure you have necessary supplies to get your home ready for a storm.
- Select a meeting place and an out-of-state friend as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact in case anyone gets separated.
- Always keep your gas tank full and make sure your vehicle is ready for the road.
- Keep copies of insurance coverage information and an inventory of personal property needed for insurance settlements, along with other important documents to take with you.

FIRE UP THE GRILL SAFELY

Chances are you'll be hosting a backyard barbecue with family and friends this summer – but be careful. Every year dozens of people are injured and hundreds of fires are reported because of grilling accidents.

quickly and cause an explosion. Always follow the manufacturers' instructions during assembly and start up, as well as maintain and inspect the grill regularly.

For out-of-control gas grill fires, identify the source of the fire. If the fire is in the grill, close the lid and turn off the control knobs to let the fire die down. If the fire is under the grill, turn off the fuel tank to control the fire which will eventually extinguish the flames. If the fire is still present or if you cannot reach the tank valve, call 911 for help.

Burning charcoal produces carbon monoxide poisoning and can be deadly when used in unventilated spaces. Always use a gas or charcoal grill outdoors and well away from the home or roof vents.



Burns can be caused by the improper use of lighter fluids. Never pour lighter fluid onto hot coals because it quickly vaporizes the fuel, causing it to become flammable. Without a strong wind, the explosive vapors will not dissipate, lingering until lit which could cause a flash fire or explosion. After grilling, let the coals cool down overnight before discarding them.

For more outdoor grilling safety tips visit www.nfpa.org.

“With the grilling season upon us, now is the perfect time to inspect your charcoal or gas grill to ensure it is in good working condition.”

– Michael McLemore, Sugar Land Fire Captain

Leaking fuel lines are the leading cause of injuries and fire from gas grilling. Improperly connected, cracked or broken hoses, or misaligned gas grill tubing, can release unlit fuel gases (propane/natural gas) that can build



City's Long-Range Mobility Plan Adopted

The City Council recently adopted a Comprehensive Mobility Plan that addresses a broad range of transportation options including commuter transit, intra-city transit or circulators, commuter rail, freight rail, automobiles and pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

The long-range plan establishes a broad vision for transportation throughout the City and identifies land use and economic development initiatives that can have a beneficial impact on mobility.

The development of the plan was guided by an extensive public involvement process, including stakeholder interviews, public meetings, a web-based survey and discussions with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Planning & Zoning Commission and City Council. The City also formed a 15-member Mobility Advisory Committee to guide the project and City Council's Intergovernmental Relations Committee served as the project's steering committee.

The Comprehensive Mobility Plan represents a blueprint to achieve the City's goal of "Superior Mobility." The Plan is prioritized, including both near-term and long-term efforts.

Some higher-priority initiatives the City will explore include:

- implementation of a trolley or circulator service during peak demand periods, including the holiday season or special events;
- expansion of the existing "TREK Express" commuter service to provide direct service to downtown Houston; and
- revision of City development standards to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety and access both on City streets and within private developments.

A copy of the Comprehensive Mobility Plan can be found on the project's website, www.sugarlandmobility.com. Take advantage of Sugar Land's commuter services at www.sugarlandtx.gov/transportation.

Update on City Road Projects

Dulles Avenue Construction Begins in June

The reconstruction of Dulles Avenue, expected to begin this summer, will provide added turn lanes to accommodate traffic and reduce wait times at intersections and major access points.

Construction is underway on Dulles Avenue from Avenue E to U.S. Highway 90A, as well as intersection improvements on Cartwright Road and Lexington Boulevard.

The completed roadway will include four lanes in each direction separated by medians, decorative traffic lights, street lighting and sidewalks.

The \$9.5 million project is being funded through a joint partnership with Sugar Land, the cities of Stafford and Missouri City, Fort Bend County and the Water Control Improvement District No. 2.

Construction is expected to last about 18 months.

University Boulevard South

Significant progress is made on a 1.8-mile stretch of University Boulevard from Commonwealth Boulevard to Riverstone that will eventually connect U.S. Highway 59 to State Highway 6.

Drivers and pedestrians can now see construction of bridge piers and back walls for the Ditch H Bridge, as well as the installation of storm sewer and water lines.

The roadway will include four lanes divided by a median with curbs and gutters, three bridges and traffic signals at the intersections of University Boulevard at Commonwealth Boulevard and University Boulevard at Elkins Road.

The \$16 million project was funded through Fort Bend County mobility bonds and the City's capital improvement program.

Completion is expected by Spring 2013.

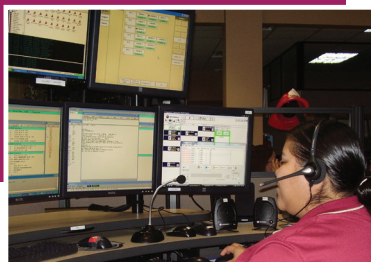


EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTER GOES DIGITAL

The City's Public Safety dispatch center recently upgraded equipment, providing enhanced emergency communications with residents and surrounding cities.

The City purchased digital dispatch radios to accommodate future growth of the dispatch center, along with new ergonomic workstations, to aid in interoperability between Sugar Land and surrounding cities.

The City received a \$165,000 grant from the Office of the Governor's Criminal Justice Division in 2009 and was awarded an additional \$300,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to fund the project.



Sugar Land First IN REGION TO INSTALL FLASHING YELLOW ARROWS

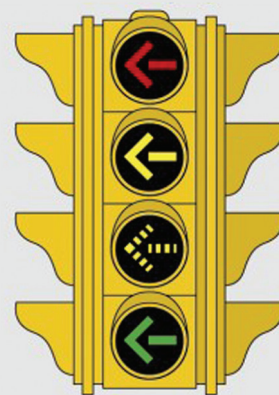
Sugar Land is the first city in the Houston area to install flashing yellow left-turn arrows to improve intersection efficiency and alleviate congestion on some of the City's busiest thoroughfares.

Flashing yellow arrows (FYA) have been installed at five intersections in the Sugar Land Business Park and due to their success, the FYAs were recently implemented at nine intersections on Eldridge Road and two will be installed on Burney Road.

The City's implementation of FYA's is designed to improve traffic safety, reduce emissions and reduce wait times.

"We've targeted these initial intersections as part of a phased approach intended to allow residents to become familiar with flashing yellow arrows before utilizing the lights in more densely travelled areas," said David Worley, assistant public works director.

Left-turn signal with four-arrow display



-  **Steady red arrow**
Stop.
-  **Steady yellow arrow**
Prepare to stop.
-  **Flashing yellow arrow**
Turn left after yielding to any oncoming traffic and pedestrians.
-  **Steady green arrow**
Proceed with left turn.

MLIVE.COM graphic

CITY ENHANCES SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING AT LOWER COST TO RESIDENTS

July 20 Deadline: Residents' Cart Selection

Sugar Land is launching an enhanced solid waste and recycling program – set to begin Dec. 5 – that will put less waste in the landfill, cut homeowners' bills and save residents \$800,000 per year.

The City approved a 10-year contract with Republic Services at an initial rate of \$15.77 per month – a decrease from the scheduled 2012 rate of \$18.62.

Residents will have until July 20 to select from three choices of cart sizes for both garbage and recycling. If no selection is made, a 95-gallon garbage cart and a

65-gallon recycling cart will be delivered to each home. Residents will incur an extra charge for choices made after July 20.

Residents will receive automated garbage collection twice per week, automated recycling and green waste collection once per week, bulky waste collection once per month and an on-call collection service.

Current curbside recycling will be expanded to include all colors of glass bottles and jars. The City's new green waste program will ensure all green waste – grass clippings, leaves, brush, tree limbs – is recycled into mulch or compost instead of sent to a landfill.

A test of the program in several Sugar Land neighborhoods found a 260 percent

increase in recycling, a benefit that results in less trash in area landfills. According to the test program survey results, after six months, 91 percent of residents were satisfied with the enhanced garbage and recycling collection service.



SUGAR LAND'S WATER REPORT CARD: A+

Drought, flooding or normal weather conditions along with available water supplies are all major challenges facing communities throughout Texas. But, the report card is good for Sugar Land's water quality and resources.

Established in 1959, the City has worked hard to ensure the supply and delivery of top quality water to its citizens. Historically, Sugar Land has relied solely on ground water to supply its drinking water needs. But years of groundwater withdrawal has caused subsidence which can lead to flooding.

Over the last four decades, the Texas Legislature created subsidence districts to help alleviate the threat of flooding. The Fort Bend Subsidence District (FBSD) was established in 1989 and sets strict guidelines on groundwater use. By 2013, the City is mandated to reduce its

groundwater use by 30 percent and 60 percent by 2025.

The City has created a Groundwater Reduction Plan (GRP) to manage a gradual conversion to these mandated levels of surface water sources. In 2010, the City's average daily use of water was over 22 million gallons, 96% came from groundwater and only 4% from surface water.

The City's surface water supplies currently come from Oyster Creek and the Brazos River. The river water is routed through Oyster Creek through agreements with the Brazos River Authority and the Gulf Coast Water Authority.

To meet the FBSD requirements, the City will continue to seek alternative water sources and uses through increased water conservation, rainwater harvesting from City Parks' facilities and wastewater

treatment plant effluent to irrigate and fill lakes. The City's extensive water resource planning ensures an ample water supply along with the infrastructure needed for superior water quality and supplies for future population growth.

"It is our goal to meet these challenges, to ensure the security of our water future and to provide superior water quality at the lowest possible cost to our residents," said City Manager Allen Bogard.

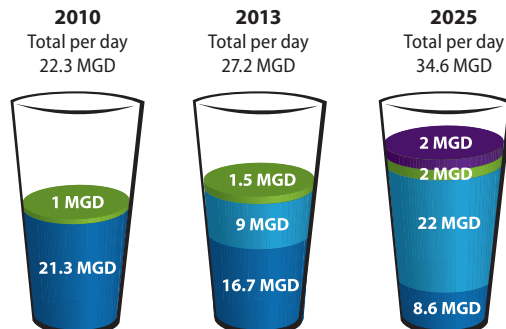
As part of the City's Groundwater Reduction Plan, construction recently began on a \$67.5 million surface water treatment plant that will produce 9 million gallons of drinking water per day from Oyster Creek. It is the largest and one of the most complex Capital Improvement Projects the City has ever undertaken. The plant is expected to be completed in early 2013.

Average Daily Demand

(million gallons per day or MGD)

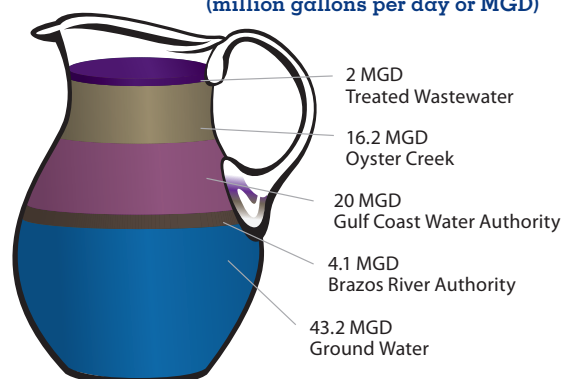
KEY

- Ground Water
- Potable Surface Water
- Non-Potable Surface Water
- Treated Wastewater



Current Daily Water Supplies

(million gallons per day or MGD)



EASY WAYS TO CONSERVE WATER AND SAVE MONEY

The hot summer months are here and water use can jump 50-100% for a typical household. While we are not officially in a drought, the City encourages residents to conserve water by curtailing their lawn water use. If your address ends in an odd or even number, water your grass on odd or even numbered calendar days.

Residents can save as much as 20 to 30 percent of the water used each month by following these simple water conservation tips:

- Repair dripping faucets. The amount of water wasted may not seem like much but it adds up over time.
- Repair or replace the handle of your toilet if it is prone to sticking and check the toilet tank for leaks. Leaks can account for 10 percent of your water bill.

- Take shorter showers or consider installing low flow showerheads.
- Turn off the water while "soaping up" during your shower.
- Fully load your dishwasher and washing machine before using it.
- Turn water off when brushing your teeth or shaving.
- Water your lawn during the early morning or late evening - only when needed. If grass springs up after being walked on, it does not need water.
- Use a spray nozzle that turns off while washing your car with a bucket and sponge.

For more information, go to www.sugarlandtx.gov and click on **Utilities/Water Conservation Tips**.

KEEP COOL at Municipal Pool

Whether you already swim like a fish or want to learn, Sugar Land's municipal pool is staffed by trained lifeguards.

Located in City Park
225 Seventh Street
(at the corner of Wood Street)
281- 275-2897

HOURS OF OPERATION

Summer Operations

June 3 – August 14

Tuesday – Friday

12 noon – 7 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday

11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Weekend Operations

August 20 – 28

11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Labor Day Weekend

September 3 – 5

11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

FEES (Residents)

Before 5 p.m.: \$1 children under 18; \$2.25 adults

After 5 p.m.: \$.50 children under 18; \$1 adults

Sugar Land Earth Day Event A Huge SUCCESS

The City of Sugar Land hosted its 2nd annual Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rock: Sugar Land Earth Day Celebration on April 16 in Town Square and Mercer Stadium. The City collected more than 27,000 pounds of recycled electronics and 9,900 pounds of shredded paper as well as clothing and household goods from 364 vehicles. More than 1,000 people attended the plaza event which featured environmental activity booths, recycling games and a performance by Leah White and the Magic Mirrors.



If you have items to recycle, visit **www.sugarlandtx.gov** and go to "Solid Waste & Recycling." Click on **Directory A-Z** for an updated list of recycling options for hundreds of products and household items.

First Colony Park Upgrades Completed

The March 26 ribbon cutting at First Colony Park marked the completion of more than \$1 million in improvements including a new concession building, upgraded lighting and spectator seating and refurbished baseball fields to meet the latest Little League standards.



IMPERIAL PARK RECREATION CENTER – GRAND OPENING JULY 30!

The City of Sugar Land will host a grand opening celebration on July 30 from noon to 4 p.m. for its new Imperial Park Recreation Center on Matlage Way. The facility is now open for tours and residents can register for classes. The 17,000 square foot facility is the City's first recreation center and features beautiful amenities for recreation, health and fitness including:

- a full size gymnasium with bleachers, scoreboards and courts for basketball, volleyball and badminton;
- group exercise and workout facilities with beautiful views overlooking Imperial Park;
- shower and locker rooms;

- a video game room with textured ceilings and walls to resemble a cave;
- multi-functional event space that opens onto a patio and garden area;
- vending machines with healthy snack options.

The annual membership fee for residents 10 and older is \$10. Daily fees cost \$5.

For more details on the Center's new activities or the grand opening event, call the Parks and Recreation Center at 281.275.2885 or email at parkrec@sugarlandtx.gov.



“We are thankful to have the support of our community and believe everyone will enjoy the facility for years to come.”

– Jim Browne,
Sugar Land's Parks and
Recreation director

Red, White and Bluefest

Celebrate America's 234th birthday at Sugar Land's annual Red White and Bluefest on July 4, from 5 to 10 p.m., at Oyster Creek Park, 4033 State Highway 6 South, and adjacent Lost Creek Park, 3703 Lost Creek Blvd.

For more information, contact the Sugar Land Parks and Recreation Department at 281.275.2885 or visit www.sugarlandtx.gov.

Come out and enjoy the fun with live entertainment including bands, patriotic walk-around characters, jugglers, unicyclists, games and a Whole Foods Market children's stage featuring magic shows, comedy acts and various cultural performances. 106.9 The Zone is the radio sponsor for the event.

The New American Patriots Quartet will showcase a special musical performance as George and Martha Washington, Betsy Ross and Paul Revere re-enact various key moments in our nation's history.

All the fun and family entertainment will culminate with the largest and most spectacular fireworks show in Fort Bend County starting at 9:30 p.m.! Refreshing food and drinks will be available for purchase.

Avoid the traffic and take the free shuttle service from Mercer Stadium, 16403 Lexington Blvd., from 4:30-11 p.m. If conditions permit, limited parking will also be available on the easement at Oyster Creek Park.

LEISURE CLASSES

Call **281-275-2885** for registration information. Nonresidents: add 25% to all fees.

TENNIS LESSONS

City Park Tennis Courts

Fort Bend Tennis Services

(281) 980-4219

TAI CHI

Sugar Land Community Center

Skip Jarret, C.I.

When: Wednesday – 7 p.m.

Ages: 12 - Adult

Price: \$7 per class

Lynn Perrinne, C.I.

When: Friday – 10 a.m.

Ages: 12 - Adult

Price: \$12 per class

TAI JI

Jason Leung

Sugar Land Community Center

When: Wednesday – 3-5:30 p.m.

Ages: 18 & up

Price: \$20 per year

(832) 567-2509

ZUMBA

Cida Moore

Eldridge Park Meeting Room

When: Monday – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday – 5:30 p.m.

Saturday – 11 a.m.

Ages: 16 & up

Price: \$80 for 10 weeks,
\$10 for one class

ZUMBA GOLD

Cida Moore

Sugar Land Community Center

When: Monday and Wednesday
1 p.m.

Ages: 50 & up

Price: \$50 for 4 weeks,
\$10 for one class

YOGA FOR EVERYBODY

Ken Hainline, RYT

First Colony Conference Center

When: Tuesday & Thursday – 7:15 p.m.

Intermediate/Advanced

Sugar Land Community Center

When: Wednesday – 5:45 p.m.

Intermediate/Advanced

Saturday 9 a.m. Beginner

Ages: 18+

Price: \$45 per six-week series

(281) 265-0770

www.y4eb.com

For one price you can attend as many classes as you would like each week.

Please bring a yoga mat to class.



KARATE

Bill Gray June 1 – August 10, 2011

Eldridge Park

When: Wednesdays

6 - 7 p.m. New Students (5-12 yrs)

7 - 8 p.m. Advanced (5-12 yrs)

8 - 9 p.m. Teens & Adults (13-70 yrs)

Price: \$45 per session.

Uniform required (\$30); can
be purchased from instructor.

JAZZERCISE LITE

Sugar Land Community Center

When: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9 a.m.

(281) 545-1023

www.pearftbendjazz.com

JAZZERCISE

First Colony Community Center

Gi Gi Hurrell

When: Monday and Wednesday

8:15 & 9:30 a.m.; 4:30 & 5:40 p.m.

Tuesday – 4:30, 5:40 & 6:40 p.m.

Thursday – 8:15, 9:30 & 10:30 a.m.;
4:30 & 5:40 p.m.

Friday – 8:15 & 9:30 a.m.;
4:30, 5:40 & 6:15 p.m.

Saturday – 8 & 9 a.m.

Sugar Land Community Center

When: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
8:15 a.m.

(281) 545-1023

www.pearftbendjazz.com

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Sue Williams

Certified ACBL Director and Teacher

First Colony Community Center

When: Tuesdays – 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

2nd, 4th and 5th Thursdays

1 - 4:30 p.m.

Price: \$4 per game

(281) 980-9588

CHILDREN'S LEISURE CLASSES

Call **281-275-2885** for registration information.

Nonresidents: add 25% to all fees.

iKIDS – PIANO & MUSIC

Amy Kelley

Eldridge Park Meeting Room

When: Wednesdays – 3 p.m.

Ages: 3-7

Price: \$105

iKIDS – LEGO TECH CLASS

Amy Kelley

Eldridge Park Meeting Room

When: Thursday – 10 a.m.

Ages: 3-7

Price: \$105

iKIDS – COMPUTER CLASSES

Amy Kelley

Eldridge Park Meeting Room

When: Wednesdays
4 p.m.

Ages: 7-12

When: Thursday 9 a.m.

Ages: 2.5-7

Price: \$95

SPECIAL SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Want to take a trip to Lake Charles or visit a spectacular exhibit on Texas history? Want to join our book club, learn how to paint like a PRO, brush up on your dance skills? For a list of senior Adventures and other events, go to www.sugarlandtx.gov/parks_recreation.



NOTES FOR SENIOR ADVENTURES:

- One-day adventure fees are due two weeks prior to the trip; overnight adventure fees are due one month in advance. Please pay fees by the due date to ensure participation.
- Trips may be cancelled if registrations are not received two weeks prior to the event.
- Transportation will be provided on a charter-style mini-bus or bus.

Events are free and held at the Sugar Land Senior Center, 200 Matlage Way, unless otherwise noted. The center is open: **Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

SENIOR PROGRAMS

GENRE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
GAMES	Pool & Shuffleboard 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Table Tennis¹ 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. Mah Jong 10 a.m. Mah Jong 1 p.m.	Pool & Shuffleboard 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Party Bridge 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Mah Jong 1 p.m. Rummikub 2 p.m.	Pool & Shuffleboard 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Table Tennis¹ 8 a.m. – Noon Cards & Dominoes 1 p.m. Mexican Train 3 p.m.	Pool & Shuffleboard 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Mah Jong 10:00 a.m. 42 2 p.m.	Pool & Shuffleboard 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	
ART	Art Class² 1 p.m.	Chinese Brush Painting^{1,2} 3rd Tuesday of the Month 9:30 a.m. Art Class^{1,2} 1 p.m. China Painting² 1 – 3 p.m.	Crochet & Knitting 1 p.m.	Crafts 1 p.m.	Fine Arts 9:30 a.m. Quilting Group 10 a.m.	
EXERCISE	Walking Club² 8 a.m. Yoga 9 a.m. Line Dancing¹ 9 a.m. (Level I) 10 a.m. (Level III) 11 a.m. (Level IV) Zumba^{1,3} 1 p.m.	Walking Club² 8 a.m. Jazzercise^{1,2} 9 a.m. Salsa, Merengue and More 11:15 a.m. Yoga 3 p.m.	Walking Club² 8 a.m. Tai Chi 9 a.m. (intermediate) 10:30 a.m. (beginner) Zumba^{1,3} 1 p.m. Line Dancing¹ 1 p.m. (Level IV)	Walking Club² 8 a.m. Yoga 8:30 a.m. Jazzercise^{1,2} 9 a.m. Line Dancing 10 a.m. (Level V)	Walking Club² 8 a.m. Jazzercise^{1,2} 9 a.m.	
LANGUAGE	English as Second Language 10 a.m.	Beginning Chinese (Mandarin) 9:30 a.m.		Functional Spanish 1 p.m.		
COMPUTER	Computer Buddy: call 281-275-2885 for an appointment					

For more information on senior activities or to sign up for our newsletter *Sweet Notes* call **281-275-2893** or e-mail seniors@sugarlandtx.gov.

KEY

Unless noted, all classes and programs are held at the Senior Center.

Drop-In

- 1 Sugar Land Community Center
- 2 Meet at First Colony Mall Food Court

Registration Required

- 1 Sugar Land Community Center
- 2 Fee for this class payable to the instructor
- 3 Fee for this class payable to Sugar Land Parks and Recreation



City of Sugar Land
P.O. Box 110
Sugar Land, TX 77487-0110

PRST STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SUGAR LAND, TX.
Permit No. 8

POSTAL CUSTOMER

calendar

	Date	Event	Time	Location
JUNE	21, 28	City Council	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
	23	Planning & Zoning	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
JULY	4	Red, White & Bluefest	5 - 10 p.m.	Oyster Creek Park
	4	Independence Day, City Offices Closed; Regular solid waste collection		
	5, 19, 26	City Council	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
	12, 28	Planning & Zoning	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
AUGUST	2, 16, 23	City Council	5:30 p.m.	City Hall
	9, 25	Planning & Zoning	6:30 p.m.	City Hall
	20, 28	Municipal Pool only open weekends through Labor Day	6:30 p.m.	City Hall

For Town Square events, visit www.sugarlandtownsquare.com. Visit www.sugarlandtx.gov to confirm City events. The City periodically posts the latest Legal Notices for residents to view. The information includes various public hearings, bids, enacted ordinances and more. To sign up for Legal Notice e-mail updates, go to www.sugarlandtx.gov and click on "Legal Notices" under "Quick Links."



MEMORIAL DAY

The City of Sugar Land paid tribute to military veterans for their bravery and service to our country during its 3rd annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Sugar Land Memorial Park on Monday, May 30.

IMPERIAL REDEVELOPMENT UPDATES

The latest information on proposed Imperial Sugar redevelopment plans is available on the City's website. Click on the **Imperial Sugar** link at www.sugarlandtx.gov for updates and an FAQ section. For email updates, send your request to planning@sugarlandtx.gov.

